

awt FIG. 3 is a black box diagram illustrating a preferred structure for the database of FIG. 2. --

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Add new paragraph after the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraphs:

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A2 -- Reference is now made to Fig. 2, which is a simplified black box diagram illustrating in greater detail the system of the present embodiments as located between suppliers and purchasers. Parts that are the same as in previous figures are given the same reference numerals and are not described again except to the extent necessary for an understanding of the present figure. Database server system 12 provides an interface 20 between supplier clients 18 and user clients 14. The interface is supported by a database 22 which will be described in greater detail below. Purchasers 24 and suppliers 26 interact with each other according to the various embodiments described herein via the interface 20.

Reference is now made to Fig. 3, which is a simplified illustration showing a preferred configuration of database 22 for supporting interface 20 during the course of trading activity. The database 22 forms a group 30 of the parties and products involved in the given activity. The group 30 typically includes the purchasers involved 32, the product designations 34 or combinations of products and their designations or specifications defining products or manufacturers and the like, price information 36, and information about other relevant numbers 38. The relevant numbers may for example be numbers of users required to trigger the trade, numbers required to reduce a price, numbers of products, times relevant to the trade and the like. --

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